

MINERAL RESOURCES (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) ACT 1990
INSTRUMENT OF RENEWAL - RETENTION LICENCE

I, Laura Helm, acting as the delegate of the Minister and pursuant to section 31 of the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* (the Act), hereby renew the retention licence according to Table 1 below and subject to the Conditions and Schedule of Conditions below.

TABLE 1

LICENCE TYPE	Retention Licence
LICENCE NUMBER	RL2026
DATE OF GRANT OF LICENCE	12 August 2016
NAME/S OF LICENSEE/S	Gippsland Critical Minerals Pty Ltd
ADDRESS/ES OF LICENSEE/S	48 Bailey Street, Bairnsdale, Victoria 3875
LOCATION	(8322) Stratford
AREA OF RENEWED LICENCE	4920.4 hectares
LICENCE RENEWED TO EXPIRE	11 August 2028
STRATUM OF LAND	Not applicable
GENERAL NATURE AND PURPOSE OF ANY CHANGED CONDITIONS	To ensure that the conditions remain appropriate to work done under the licence.

Signed by



Laura Helm
Director Statutory Authorisations

Date: 23/10/2024

Date of Registration 23/10/2024 Time of Registration 3:19 pm 
REGISTRAR Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990

F 90016400

RETENTION LICENCE RENEWAL CONDITIONS

1. The licensee must expend in connection with retention licence activities of the land a minimum of is-
 - \$1,934,000** in the first year of the term of the renewed licence,
 - \$1,125,000** in the second year of the term of the renewed licence,
 - \$4,000,000** in the third year of the term of the renewed licence,
 - \$4,000,000** in the fourth year of the term of the renewed licence,
 - \$4,000,000** in the fifth year of the term of the renewed licence,
 - \$4,000,000** in the sixth year of the term of the renewed licence
 unless this requirement is varied or application of this requirement is suspended for a specified period, in accordance with the Act.
2. The reporting date is **30 September** annually.
3. In addition to the annual reporting the licensee must provide:
 - a. a report each year on 30 March on the completion and progress of the project milestones under specific condition 1.1, commencing after the date of delegate approval on the instrument of renewal
 - b. quarterly reports on 30 September, 31 December, 30 March and 30 June each year, commencing on the quarter after the decision to renew this licence is made, providing information on the community engagement activities listed within the project milestones. The report must demonstrate that reasonably practicable actions have been taken to address concerns through the community engagement process and include complaints, enquiries and feedback that have been received and how those complaints, enquiries and feedback are being addressed.
4. The licensee must have self-referred the project to the Minister for Planning for a decision on the need for assessment under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* by 11 December 2025.
5. The licensee must submit a work plan for rehabilitation trials by 30 March 2025. If a change request decision is made on the work plan application, or on the submission of a work plan for rehabilitation trials, the licensee must address the change request within 60 days.

RETENTION LICENCE SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

IMPORTANT NOTE: The conditions in this schedule address a wide range of activities. You may not have approval for all the activities described. Work other than “low impact exploration” may only be undertaken in accordance with a work plan approved by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, DEECA.

For further information about compliance with licence conditions or requirements for work plans refer to the *Code of Practice for Mineral Exploration* and *Standard Work Plan Guidelines for Exploration or Area Work Plan Guidelines for Exploration* available at www.resources.vic.gov.au.

PART A SPECIFIC CONDITIONS**1. WORK PROGRAM**

- 1.1 The licence is granted subject to compliance with and completion of the program of work (outlined in the schedule of project milestones), being undertaken during the term of the licence.
- 1.2 The program of work may be varied with the agreement of the Minister. This does not apply if the variation only involves work which is additional to that described in the program of work.
- 1.3 During the term of the licence, the Minister may request updated details of the proposed program of work.

YEAR 1 – GEOLOGICAL WORK / PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
Milestone 1 Category: Resource Re-Statement Work Description: Re-statement of Fingerboards resource which included rare earths as a co-product. Resource shown to have increased in size and value. Milestone 2 Category: Re-Scoping Study Work Description: Workshops and field visits identified project changes that were required to avoid or mitigate issues highlighted by IAC and Planning Minister reports. Optimisation studies and initial assessment of the likely impact of the project assuming reduced resource access and avoidance of endangered and threatened EVC's. Milestone 3 Category: Social Licence Work Description: Independent assessment of stakeholder and community attitudes towards the project. Milestone 4 Category: Stakeholder Engagement Work Description: Attendance at local business and industry groups. Milestone 5 Category: Community Engagement Work Description: Responded to community & local business enquiries when received. Milestone 6 Category: Community Grant Fund Work Description: Grant program continued with 20 recipients annually. Milestone 7 Category: Community Sentiment Work Description: Engaged independent consultants to monitor community sentiments. Milestone 8 Category: Office / Information Centre Work Description: Local Bairnsdale office closed post EES. Milestone 9 Category: Advance access agreements Work Description: Regular landowner contact with land purchase and compensation agreements advanced. Key land parcels purchased, and option agreements extended. Milestone 10 Category: Regulatory Work Description: Regulatory and commercial work to identify path forwards for a re-scoped project. Milestone 11 Category: Maintenance of Land Work Description: Management of boundaries, fences and properties. Agistment to local graziers. Milestone 12 Category: Maintenance of Nursery operations Work Description: Continued growing and harvesting of native grass species to build critical stock for grassy woodland restoration.
Year 1 Expenditure - \$1,934,000

YEAR 2 - GEOLOGICAL WORK / PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
Milestone 13 Category: Project Concept Selection Study (CSS) Commences Work Description: Define and evaluate various development scenarios to allow selection of Project Concepts to be assessed during feasibility in Years 4-5. Milestone 14 Category: Groundwater Review Work Description: Review of the outcomes of earlier exploration and testing of Lower Latrobe Aquifer. Development of a staged groundwater appraisal program for years 4-6. Milestone 15 Category: Community Engagement Plan Work Description: Initial Community Consultation/Participation Plan developed in-step with rescoped Project. Milestone 16 Category: Community Sentiment Work Description: Commission statistically significant social research surveys to baseline and monitor community sentiment. Milestone 17 Category: Advance access agreements Work Description: Progress agreements to acquire, relocate and compensate relevant landowners. Significant land purchases. Milestone 18 Category: Renewed Company Policy & Governance Work Description: Review & develop company environmental, social, governance policy statements; initial stakeholder engagement strategy and community engagement plan as per above. Milestone 19 Category: Approvals Work Description: Engage with Government to develop approvals pathway. Milestone 20 Category: Maintenance of Land Work Description: Management of boundaries, fences and properties. Agistment to local graziers. Milestone 21 Category: Maintenance of Nursery operations Work Description: Continued growing and harvesting of native grass species to build critical stock for grassy woodland restoration. Milestone 22 Category: Environmental Baseline Monitoring Work Description: Review, define and execute the ongoing environmental baseline monitoring programs as informed by the rescoped Project CSS.
Year 2 Expenditure - \$1,125,000

YEAR 3 - GEOLOGICAL WORK / PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
Milestone 23 Category: Rescope - boundaries and buffer changes Work Description: Define new, rescoped Project with functional project description. Develop scope for detailed Project Concept Definition Study 'CDS' (Feasibility Study). Redefine project boundaries and buffer zones. Milestone 24 Category: Commence Concept Definition Study (CDS or Feasibility) Work Description: Commence Project Concept Definition Study based on scope defined in CSS. Milestone 25 Category: Complete assaying samples from Fingerboards 2022 Infill drilling Work Description: Advance resource definition for Fingerboards Project to 'measured' resource ahead of completion of CDS and detailed engineering design. Milestone 26 Category: Community Engagement Plan Work Description: Further develop and implement a detailed Community Engagement Plan (CEP), including identification of stakeholders, build out of the database, and a detailed analysis of interests, engagement methods and timelines, and regular feedback, reporting and review mechanisms. Early engagement with key stakeholder groups throughout the year to inform the CEP, with a focus on: • Engagement with Primary Producers through local Agricultural/Horticultural industry groups • Engagement with GLaWAC and Traditional Owners • Neighbouring properties • Local councils • Interested members of the community Milestone 27 Category: Key Stakeholder Policies and Procedures Work Description: Implement a best-practice Grievance and Feedback Mechanism. Milestone 28 Category: Community Benefits Work Description: Early Benefit Sharing Plan to be developed in partnership with the local community following targeted consultation and engagement efforts. This might include the expansion of the community grants program, regional development and jobs programs, apprenticeship programs, Gippsland-first procurement plans, First Nations jobs and other training programs to build local capability (outlined in more detail in the CEP and following consultation with the community). Milestone 29 Category: Community Sentiment Work Description: Commission recurring statistically significant social research surveys and focus groups to baseline and monitor community sentiment. Milestone 30 Category: Assess Stakeholder Expectations & Priorities Work Description: Conduct quarterly focus groups by a suitably qualified third-party provider with randomised sample representatives of community and key stakeholder groups to assess stakeholder values, expectations, attitudes, and priorities Milestone 31 Category: Inform Community Work Description: Establish a virtual or physical information centre to answer questions and exhibit updated project to the local community.

Milestone 32**Category: Advance access agreements**

Work Description: Progress agreements to acquire, relocate and compensate relevant landowners. Significant land purchases

Milestone 33**Category: Environmental Baseline Monitoring**

Work Description: Review, define and execute the environmental baseline monitoring programs as informed by the rescope Project.

Milestone 34**Category: Climate Modelling**

Work Description: Check/validate 2021 Climate Modelling Study--> mine & rehabilitation design parameters to manage impacts/risks at forecast extremes.

Milestone 35**Category: Rehabilitation Trials**

Work Description: Design large scale rehabilitation trials (to address and mitigate concerns from IAC report)

Milestone 36**Category: Impact Assessment Studies - Commenced**

Work Description: Commence impact assessment studies, for example: water (surface and ground), air quality, noise, socioeconomic, biodiversity/groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDE), cultural heritage; commence studies according to revised objectives, as required.

Year 3 Expenditure - \$4,000,000

YEAR 4 – GEOLOGICAL WORK / PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
Milestone 37 Category: Continue Concept Definition Study (CDS or Feasibility) Work Description: Continue Project Concept Definition Study based on scope defined in CSS. Milestone 38 Category: Community Engagement Work Description: Continue engagement in line with the CEP, including with Primary Producers, GLaWAC (and Traditional Owners), neighbours and other key stakeholder groups. Communication strategies will be informed by the evolving CEP. Report to Government stakeholders on engagement efforts and outcomes. Milestone 39 Category: Community Benefits Work Description: Agreed benefit sharing initiatives to be rolled out developed in partnership with the local community following targeted consultation and engagement efforts. Milestone 40 Category: First Nations Work Description: Subject to agreement with Traditional Owners / GLaWAC, commence the Cultural Heritage Assessment, and begin scoping the Cultural Heritage Management Plan and Traditional Owner Agreements. Milestone 41 Category: Community Sentiment Work Description: Commission recurring statistically significant social research surveys (yearly) and quarterly focus groups to baseline and monitor community sentiment. Milestone 42 Category: Assess Stakeholder Expectations & Priorities Work Description: Conduct quarterly focus groups by a suitably qualified third-party provider with randomised sample representatives of community and key stakeholder groups to assess stakeholder values, expectations, attitudes, and priorities.

Milestone 43**Category: Advance access agreements**

Work Description: Progress agreements to acquire, relocate and compensate relevant landowners. Significant land purchases.

Milestone 44**Category: Environmental Baseline Monitoring**

Work Description: Execute the ongoing environmental baseline monitoring programs as informed by the rescoped Project.

Milestone 45**Category: Climate Modelling**

Work Description: Check/review 2021 Climate Modelling Study--> mine & rehabilitation design parameters to manage impacts/risks at forecast extremes

Milestone 46**Category: Rehabilitation Trials**

Work Description: Submit workplan for rehabilitation trials (to address and mitigate concerns from IAC report)

Milestone 47**Category: Impact Assessment Studies – Commenced/Continued**

Work Description: Commence and continue impact assessment studies, for example: water (surface and ground), air quality, noise, socioeconomic, biodiversity/GDE, cultural heritage; commence studies according to revised objectives, as required.

Milestone 48**Category EES – Decision on new referral**

Work Description: EES self-referral of the project

Milestone 49**Category: Water sources and supply**

Work Description: Investigate surface water and groundwater requirements and availability, as part of project rescoping works

Year 4 Expenditure - \$4,000,000

YEAR 5 – GEOLOGICAL WORK / PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**Milestone 50****Category: Complete Concept Definition Study (CDS or Feasibility)****Work Description:** Finalise Feasibility Study and board decision to advance project to development subject to approvals.**Milestone 51****Category: Groundwater Borefield****Work Description:** Complete groundwater and surface definition drilling and/or production bore testing, to supply water in line with rescoped project**Milestone 52****Category: Surface Water and Ground Water Rights****Work Description:** Surface water (winterfill) co-benefit scheme advanced to Heads of Agreement with key partners to secure water in line rescoped project**Milestone 53****Category: Community Engagement****Work Description:** Continue engagement in line with the CEP, including with Primary Producers, GLaWAC (and Traditional Owners), neighbours and other key stakeholder groups. Review the CEP and continue to evolve the Plan as stakeholder needs evolve and information from the socio-economic impact assessment becomes available. Communication strategies will be informed by the evolving CEP. Report to Government stakeholders on engagement efforts and outcomes.**Milestone 54****Category: Community Benefits****Work Description:** Benefit sharing initiatives continue to be implemented and further evolved in partnership with the local community.**Milestone 55****Category: Community Sentiment****Work Description:** Commission recurring statistically significant social research surveys and focus groups to baseline and monitor sentiment.**Milestone 56****Category: Assess Stakeholder Expectations & Priorities****Work Description:** Conduct periodic focus groups by a suitably qualified third-party provider with randomised sample representatives of community and key stakeholder groups to assess stakeholder values, expectations, attitudes, and priorities.**Milestone 57****Category: Advance access agreements****Work Description:** Progress agreements to acquire, relocate and compensate relevant landowners. Significant land purchases.**Milestone 58****Category: Approvals Process****Work Description:** EES or other approvals pathway well advanced.**Milestone 59****Category: Environmental Baseline Monitoring****Work Description:** Execute the ongoing environmental baseline monitoring programs as informed by the rescoped Project.**Milestone 60****Category: Climate Modelling****Work Description:** Validate 2021 Climate Modelling Study--> mine & rehabilitation design parameters to manage impacts/risks at forecast extremes

Milestone 61

Category: Rehabilitation Trials

Work Description: Commence rehabilitation trials

Milestone 62

Category: Impact Assessment Studies - Completed

Work Description: Continue impact assessment studies, for example: water (surface and ground), air quality, noise, socio economic, biodiversity/GDE, cultural heritage; commence studies according to revised objectives, as required.

Year 5 Expenditure - \$4,000,000

YEAR 6 – GEOLOGICAL WORK / PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**Milestone 63****Category: Groundwater Borefield**

Work Description: Borefield proved, and groundwater licence transfer secured (subject to Minister's assessment for the EES, where required for the rescoped project).

Milestone 64**Category: Surface Water storage and water rights**

Work Description: Surface water (winterfill) co-benefit scheme engineering Feasibility Study completed, as required and in line with rescoped project.

Milestone 65**Category: Community Engagement**

Work Description: Continue engagement in line with the CEP, including with Primary Producers, GLaWAC (and Traditional Owners), local councils, key stakeholder groups, neighbours and community groups and residences. Review the CEP and continue to evolve the Plan as stakeholder needs evolve. Communication strategies will be informed by the evolving CEP. Report to Government stakeholders on engagement efforts and outcomes.

Milestone 66**Category: Community Benefits**

Work Description: Benefit sharing initiatives continue to be implemented and further evolved in partnership with the local community, including workforce development plans and local procurement policies, procedures and arrangements.

Milestone 67**Category: First Nations**

Work Description: Finalise all outstanding First Nations agreements and arrangements, including the Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Local Preferencing / Procurement policies and approaches, Indigenous specific Workforce and Business Development strategies and plans and Traditional Owner Agreements.

Milestone 68**Category: Community Sentiment**

Work Description: Commission recurring statistically significant social research surveys and focus groups to baseline and monitor community sentiment.

Milestone 69**Category: Assess Stakeholder Expectations & Priorities**

Work Description: Conduct periodic focus groups by a suitably qualified third-party provider with randomised sample representatives of community and key stakeholder groups to assess stakeholder values, expectations, attitudes, and priorities.

Milestone 70**Category: Advance access agreements**

Work Description: Progress agreements to acquire, relocate and compensate relevant landowners.

Milestone 71**Category: Approvals Process**

Work Description: Primary Approvals Process Complete.

Milestone 72**Category: Secondary Approvals**

Work Description: Secondary approvals (e.g. work plan) are well advanced.

Milestone 73**Category: Environmental Baseline Monitoring**

Work Description: Ongoing environmental baseline monitoring programs as informed by the rescoped Project.

Milestone 74	
Category: Climate Modelling	
Work Description: Review 2021 Climate Modelling Study--> mine & rehabilitation design parameters to manage impacts/risks at forecast extremes.	
Milestone 75	
Category: Rehabilitation Trials	
Work Description: Ongoing rehabilitation trials.	
	Year 6 Expenditure - \$4,000,000
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE - \$19,059,000

PART B GENERAL CONDITIONS**2. GENERAL**

- 2.1 The licence holder must not undertake, cause or allow the undertaking of any exploration for coal seam gas.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 The licensee must ensure that the relevant ERR Deputy Chief Inspector is at all times aware of the appropriate contact person for activities conducted under the licence.
- 3.2 Prior to commencing ground intrusive work or work involving the removal or damaging of native vegetation under the definition of low impact exploration the licensee must submit a rehabilitation bond to the satisfaction of the Minister
- 3.3 Where ground intrusive work or work involving the removal or damaging of native vegetation is carried out under the definition of low impact exploration the licensee must notify the Crown land manager (for works on Crown land) and the ERR Chief Inspector at least 7 days prior to the commencement of work. Notification must include:
- Start date, and
 - Proposed ground intrusive work, and/or
 - Proposed removal or damaging of native vegetation, and
 - Location.

4. NATIVE VEGETATION AND FAUNA

- 4.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to avoid, minimise and/or offset the removal and disturbance of native vegetation and faunal habitats.

5. BOX IRONBARK REGION

- 5.1 Where activities are proposed to be undertaken in a Box-Ironbark Region, the licensee must undertake a preliminary assessment of vegetation and faunal habitats of areas of interest in that Box-Ironbark region to identify and mark areas or sites to be avoided in the project area.

6. PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

- 6.1 Prior to commencing any work, the licensee must have public liability insurance that covers all work authorised under the licence and ensure the insurance is valid at all times while work occurs under the licence.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY ZONE

- 7.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise their impact on the operation of a Public Safety Zone.

8. SOIL MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise impacts on the physical and biological health of soil.

9. PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES, WEEDS AND PEST ANIMALS

- 9.1 The licensee must ensure that all soil that is imported into the licence area is free of plant pests and disease, and noxious weeds.
- 9.2 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise the spread of weeds, pest animals and plant diseases whilst undertaking on ground activities.
- 9.3 The licensees must adhere to any biosecurity protocols that have been adopted on private or Crown land.

10. WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC HABITAT

- 10.1 The licensee must design, install and maintain erosion and sediment controls to prevent erosion of areas of disturbed land and sedimentation of waterways.

10.2 Where activities are being conducted in waters or on the banks of waterways with water in them, the licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise sedimentation of the waterway.

10.3 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent contaminated runoff from entering receiving waterways.

11. FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

11.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent contamination of the environment by the release of fuels, lubricants and hazardous materials.

11.2 The licensee must ensure that spills of hazardous materials are cleaned up as quickly as practicable. Such spillage must not be cleaned up by hosing, sweeping or otherwise releasing such contaminant into waterways.

11.3 Within the Box Ironbark region, the licensee must install trays or similar apparatus beneath machinery to protect the soil and vegetation from oil/fuel leaks or spills.

12. ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

12.1 The licensee must ensure Aboriginal cultural heritage is not harmed as a result of works undertaken within the licence area.

12.2 Within areas where ground intrusive exploration works or the removal of native vegetation are proposed on Crown land in the Box Ironbark Region, an assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage values must be undertaken.

13. HERITAGE (NON-INDIGENOUS)

13.1 The licensee must ensure non-indigenous cultural heritage is not harmed as a result of works undertaken within the licence area.

13.2 Within areas where ground intrusive exploration works or the removal of native vegetation are proposed on Crown land in the Box Ironbark Region, an assessment of non-indigenous cultural heritage values must be undertaken.

14. FIRE PRECAUTION

14.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent the ignition and spread of fire.

14.2 Prior to undertaking any activities, the licensee must develop and implement a fire response and readiness plan.

15. WASTE AND REDUNDANT EQUIPMENT

15.1 The licensee must ensure all waste generated on site is disposed of at an appropriate waste management facility.

16. CAMPING

16.1 The licensee may only establish campsites with the permission of the Crown land manager or private land owner/occupier.

16.2 The licensee must select, establish and manage campsites to minimise risks to the environment and/or the health and safety of people.

17. NOISE

17.1 Within the licensed area, the licensee must ensure that noise generated by activities does not exceed limits set by the Environment Protection Authority, Victoria and the local council.

17.2 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to avoid causing nuisance noise.

18. AIR EMISSIONS, DUST AND LIGHTING

18.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts as a result of the release of dust, odour and/or emission of light.

19. LIVESTOCK, DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND CROPS

- 19.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts to livestock¹, domestic animals and crops.

20. GEOPHYSICAL AND GEOCHEMICAL SURVEYS AND GRIDLINES

- 20.1 In designing and constructing geophysical and geochemical surveys, the licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts to the environment and/or the health and safety of people.
- 20.2 Prior to designing and constructing geophysical and geochemical surveys, the licensee must consult with the Crown land manager and/or private landowner/occupier about the position of gridlines and geophysical lines.

21. EXPLOSIVES

- 21.1 When using explosives or high electrical currents, all reasonable measures must be taken to prevent harm or disturbance to people, domestic animals, livestock and wildlife.

22. TRACKS AND ROADS

- 22.1 In designing and constructing tracks and roads, the licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impact to the environment.
- 22.2 Prior to designing and constructing tracks and roads, the licensee must consult with the public land manager, responsible road authority and/or private landowner/ occupier.
- 22.3 Prior to using a closed road, the licensee must gain consent from the responsible road authority.
- 22.4 Prior to conducting ground intrusive works on a road, the licensee must gain consent from the responsible road authority.

23. DRILL SITES, COSTEANS, TRENCHES AND BULK SAMPLING EXCAVATIONS

- 23.1 The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts of establishing costeans, drill holes, bulk sample excavations and trenches to the environment and/or the health and safety of people.

24. DRILLHOLE OPERATIONS, CONSTRUCTION AND DECOMMISSIONING

- 24.1 The licensee must ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the impacts of drilling operations and that the operations are conducted in a manner that ensures protection of the environment, human health and amenity.
- 24.2 The licensee must prevent contamination of aquifers as a result of drilling operations.
- 24.3 The licensee must ensure that where a drillhole is to be left open overnight or longer, a temporary cap is fitted.
- 24.4 The licensee must ensure that when drilling for coal seam gas (CSG) the blowout prevention equipment (including accumulators) of a well is installed, operated, maintained and pressure tested.
- 24.5 The licensee must ensure that the permanent abandonment of CSG wells include the installation of appropriate concrete surface plugs to ensure the integrity of the well and formations.
- 24.6 The licensee must ensure that accurate records of decommissioning procedures are kept to provide future reference, and to demonstrate to DEECA that the drillholes have been satisfactorily plugged and abandoned.

25. UNDERGROUND EXPLORATION

- 25.1 The licensee must ensure that during underground exploration and development works, access shafts, adits and declines are made safe.
- 25.2 The licensee must ensure that on completion of underground exploration and development works, access shafts, adits or declines no longer required are permanently closed off and the site made safe for the public and wildlife.

26. REHABILITATION

¹ For the purpose of these conditions, bees are defined as livestock.

- 26.1 The licensee must ensure that disturbed areas are rehabilitated as soon as possible after the completion of works.
- 26.2 The licensee must ensure that indigenous species used in rehabilitation are sourced from the local area, of local provenance and appropriate to the site's Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC).

27. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING, MONITORING AND AUDITING

- 27.1 The licensee must implement a program for monitoring environmental impacts and rehabilitation.
- 27.2 The licensee must submit an Annual Report that includes:
- A report about the environmental management of activities including the results of any environmental audits conducted.
 - Quantity, area and type of native vegetation removed.
 - Details of current progressive rehabilitation activities.
 - A rehabilitation report detailing completed rehabilitation activities over that year.
- 27.3 The licensee must notify DEECA as soon as practical of any environmental incident which results in:
- An emission not authorised by licence, work authority or work plan.
 - Any deviations from conditions or environmental standards outlined for the site.
- 27.4 Within seven (7) days of an environmental incident, the licensee must prepare and forward a report to DEECA detailing the following information:
- the cause, time and duration of the incident.
 - the native vegetation or threatened flora/fauna affected by the incident (if applicable).
 - the type, volume and concentration of every pollutant discharged as a result of the incident.
 - action taken by the licensee in relation to the incident.
 - action taken to prevent any recurrence of the incident.

28. DOCUMENTATION AND RECORDS

- 28.1 The licensee must record activities undertaken and results arising from the environmental and rehabilitation monitoring program, any auditing undertaken, and any complaints received.
- 28.2 The licensee must ensure that documentation generated through the environmental and rehabilitation monitoring program, auditing and any complaints received is appropriately stored and accessible to relevant personnel and is available upon request by an ERR Inspector.

PLAN OF AREA

Retention Licence No.2026

Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990



Energy,
Environment
and Climate Action

Name of Licensee:

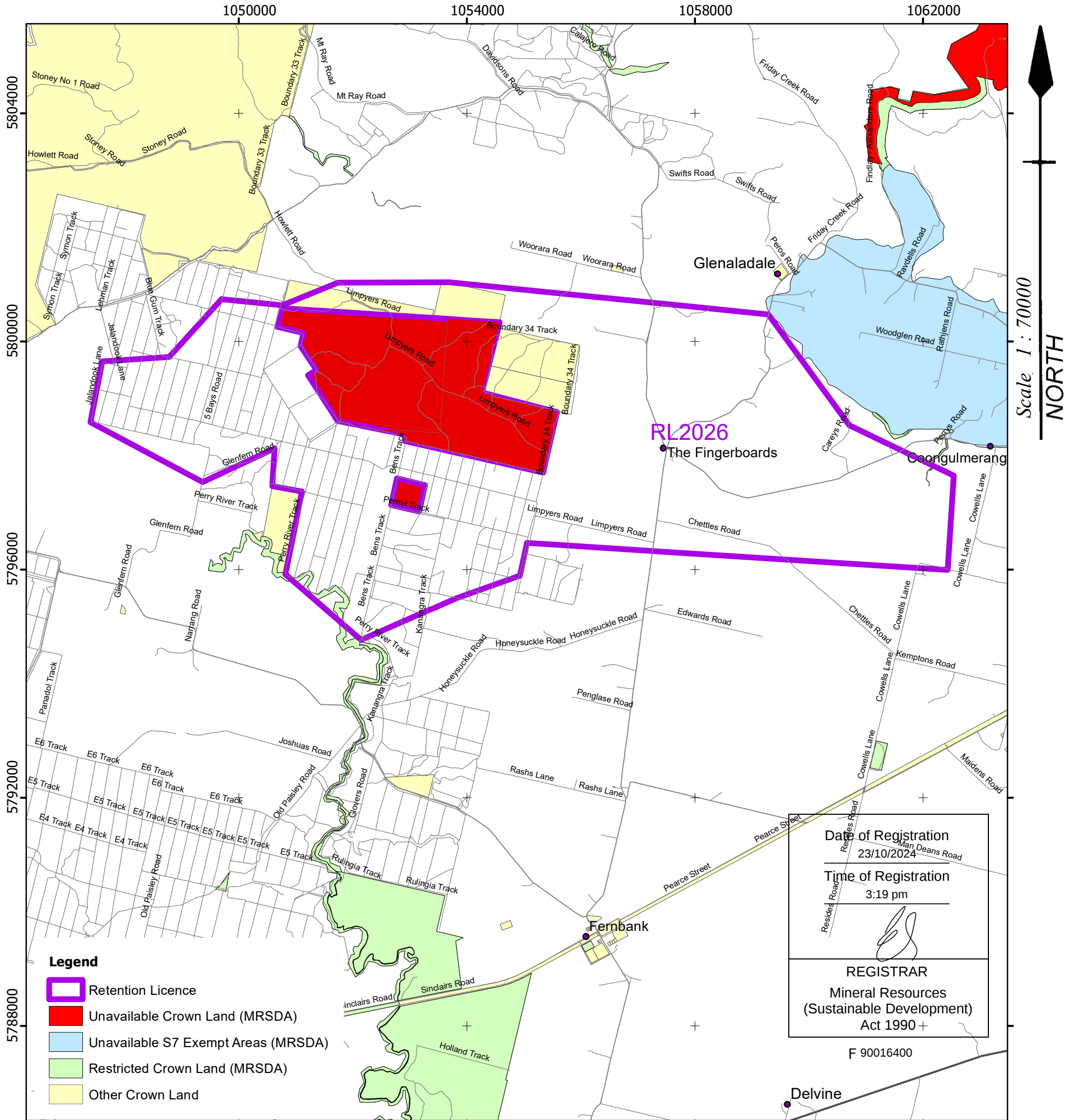
Gippsland Critical Minerals Pty Ltd

SHIRE OF East Gippsland

PARISH OF Nindoo,Marlooh,Glenaladale,
Narrang and Coongulmerang

TOTAL AREA 4,920.40 Hectares

NET AREA 4,920.40 Hectares



ALL MEASUREMENTS ARE IN METRES

Certified correct
Licenced Surveyor
Date

Checked
Date
Record plan

Christy Thiagarajah
27 June 2024
Stratford